Ban on technology and materials

1885. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's inability to expand its present nuclear power generation capacity, which cover only 3 per cent of our total requirements is due to inadequate supplies of uranium and technological assistance coupled with embargo by a cartel called Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG);

(b) whether the NSG operates a blanket ban on technology and materials trade with black-listed countries, including India; and

(c) If so, whether US has offered civilian nuclear energy cooperation with India which could lead the NSG to reconsider the ban currently in force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. India has formulated a comprehensive indigenous three-stage nuclear power programme to expand its nuclear power generating capacity to 20,000 MW by the year 2020. International cooperation can supplement our indigenous efforts. However at present the Nuclear Suppliers' Group (NSG) guidelines prevent trade in nuclear technology and materials with India. According to these guidelines such items can be supplied to a non-nuclear-weapon State only when that State has brought into force an agreement with the IAEA requiring the application of safeguards on all its current and future peaceful activities.

(c) The Joint Statement issued during the recent visit of Prime Minister to the US, states *inter-alia* "the United States will work with friends and allies to adjust international regimes to enable full civil nuclear energy cooperation and trade with India, including but not limited to expeditious consideration of fuel supplies for safeguarded nuclear reactors at Tarapur. In the meantime, the United States will encourage its partners to also consider this request epeditiously".

Accident in CCL mine in Hazaribagh

1886. SHRI LALIT SURI:
SHRI DARA SINGH CHAUHAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of workers got trapped inside the Central Coal Fields Ltd. (CCL) Saunda mine in Hazaribagh on the 14th June, 2005;

(b) the number, out of them, who lost their lives and those who could be rescued;

(c) whether the cause of the accident has been investigated; if so, the findings thereof and the action taken thereon;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to prevent such mishaps; and

(e) the nature of assistance given to the families of those who lost their lives in the mishap?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) and (b) As per information received from Coal India Limited (CIL), at the end of the third shift of 14.6.2005, i.e. the morning of 15.6.2005, fourteen employees (12 workmen and 2 supervisors) did not come out of Old Bansgara Incline of Central Saunda Colliery of Central Coalfields Ltd. (CCL), in Hazaribagh district, Jharkhand. The rescue and recovery operations along with action to dewater the drawned area were taken immediately. Services of Naval divers for rescue of survivors were also utilized, but the precious lives of all the above 14 persons, who were trapped inside the mine, could not be saved.

(c) The Directorate General of Mines Safety (DGMS) under the Ministry of Labour, which is the statutory body for enforcement of safety statutes in mines in the country, is conducting enquiry, under the Mines Act, 1952, into the accident. The enquiry is stated to be in progress.

Besides, Ministry of Coal had constituted a committee under chairmanship of Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Central Mine Planning and Degine Institute Limited for holding a Departmental enquiry. The Committee has since submitted its report, which is under consideration. The main findings of the report are as under.

(i) The accident was caused by fall of a large area of standing roof in the decoaled area leading to air blast. The presence of weak zone of strata might have contributed to the fall of roof which also resulted in inrush of water through the caved area from the water logged old workings of overlying seam. Ineffective dewatering of the overlying seam before and during depillaring is the major cause for this inundation.

(ii) Acts of negligence and dereliction of duty have taken place on the part of CCL officials.

(d) To prevent such mishaps and to improve the status of safety in mines, following steps are being taken by the coal companies:—

- Thurst on training and retaining of workmen, supervisors and managers to increase safety awareness.
- Issue of guidelines for safer operations in identified thrust areas through circulars.
- Promoting participation of workers in safety management.
- Promoting self-regulation by management.
- Tri-partite and Bi-partite review of safety status at various levels.
- Observance of safety week and safety campaigns.
- Generating safety awareness and information dissemination.
- National Conference on Safety in Mines.
- National Safety Awards.
- Interactions at different forums with a view to promote safety, health and welfare of persons employed in mines.
- Introduction to the concept of Risk Assessment, preparation of Safety Management Plan and Development of Emergency Response System.
- Facilitating introduction of new technology in mining with low potential risk.

(e) As reported by CIL, apart from compensation payable under the Workmen's Compensation Act, *ex-gratia*, life-cover, gratuity, leave encashment, benevolent fund, employment to one dependant of the deceased have been given. The amount of compensation paid to the affected families varies from Rs. 5.32 lakhs to Rs. 6.86 lakhs depending upon the age and length of service of the deceased persons. In addition to the above, kin of each deceased will be paid by Insurance Company against group insurance accident scheme which will be about Rs. 5 lakhs. Provident

Fund through Coal Mines Provident Fund Organisation (CMPF), in the region of Rs. 3 to 4 lakhs will be paid to the dependents and pension to wife and two dependent sons will also be disbursed by CMPF.

Besides, the Hon'ble Prime Minister has sanctioned an *ex-gratia* of Rs. 1,00,000/- from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to the next of each of kin of the deceased. CIL has also been advised to make payment of Rs. 1 lakh to each as an additional *ex-gratia*.

Outsourcing of coal

1887. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the total output of coal through outsourcing by Coal India Limited and its subsidiaries during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): Coal production by hired equipments in subsidiaries of Coal India Limited during last three years is given below:

Company	2004-2005	2003-2004	2002-2003
ECL	20.48	5.08	3.11
BCCL	52.15	38.61	37.22
CCL	141.10	132.34	131.59
WCL	25.23	23.09	16.74
SECL	591.98	516.34	481.52
MCL	630.78	568.77	494.67
NEC	4.78	6.11	5.21
TOTAL	1466.50	1290.34	1170.06

IPO by Coal India Limited

1888. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry and Coal India Limited are considering an IPO to part finance its Rs. 21,000/- crores investment plans; and